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# New-York Daily Tribune.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1868.

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Suspended from his Position as Treasurer; Letters from the People, Board of Supervisors, National Board of Fire Underwriters, The Murder of a Car Conductor, Law Intelligence, Buildings in New-York, and other matters, are on the second page this morning; The Money and other Markets, New-York Forty Years Ago, The Gowanus Canal, and The New-Jersey Senate Joint Resolutions, on the third; Scientific Items on the sirth and Real Estate on the seventh. on the sixth, and Real Estate on the seventh.

SENATE, Feb. 19.—The Judiciary Committee reported adversely upon Mr. Wilson's Reconstruction bill.

Mr. Wilson introduced a resolution to admit Mr. Wilson introduced a resolution to admit Alabama to representation in Congress.

The case of Mr. Thomas, Senator elect from Maryland, was taken up, and, after debate, the resolution to admit him was voted down by the vote of 21 Yeas to 28 Nays.

House, Feb. 19.—A bill to organize a Law

Department was reported; also, a bill provid-ing against the importation of convicts of for-

eign countries.

The Civil Appropriation bill was taken up,

disposed of, was passed.

The Army Appropriation bill was then taken up. The amendment providing against the issuing of any more commissions, except to graduates of West Point, which gave rise to considerable debate, was agreed to—54 to 43.

The correspondence between the Persident The correspondence between the President and Lieut.-Gen. Sherman relative to conferring the brevet rank of general on the latter and the establishment of the Military Division of

the Atlantic was called for.

Mr. Logan introduced a bill revoking the authority of the Secretary of the Treasury to pay a per centage for the sale of Government bonds.

The great Erie quarrel increases in interest. The Attorney-General of the State has interfered, and Mr. Daniel Drew has been suspended from his position as Treasurer. The metition in which the various charges against he refused to sign the returns because he a fortune quickly; sell out and leave others further, as to how many of these applications

Mr. Drew are recited at length, and on which the order of Judge Barnard was granted, is printed in full on the second page.

After weeks of discussion, the Senate has at last decided against the admission of Senatorelect Thomas of Maryland. The vote was taken yesterday, and resulted 21 for his admission, and 28 against.

The Brazilian Government is trying a dangerous experiment in ordering a general conscription for the purpose of carrying on the war against Paraguay. The people of Brazil already have shown a great dissatisfaction with the burdens which the war imposes upon them, and the enforcement of conscription cannot but increase the number of the malcontents. Should the insurrection in the Argentine Republic take a turn unfavorable to Brazil, the Brazilian Government will find it difficult to continue the war.

The Republican members of the New-York Constitutional Convention have decided to submit the new Constitution to the vote of the people at the regular election in November next. While this course will doubtless secure a much larger vote upon the subject than would come out at a special election, it will reduce the vital matter of our organic law below the comparatively temporary importance of who shall be President and who shall be Governor. The determination of a question so important ought to stand alone, and be judged upon its merits. If tacked on as a rider in a Presidential election, the electors will be sure to look upon it as a party measure, and the great majority will vote upon it in that light.

#### FLORIDA.

Our readers have been thoroughly informed of the proceedings of the Constitutional Convention in Florida, and, we presume, as thoroughly disgusted with the factious quarrels among the members, the secession of nearly one-half, and the setting up of a rival Convention. Florida has always been a thriftess State. With a climate of wonderful salubrity, and a soil that scarcely needed cultivation to satisfy the most avaricious owner, she has lagged far behind her neighbors in everything like public or private prosperity and enterprise. During the war she was the feeding ground of the Rebel armies, furnishing, with Texas, the solid supplies of beef for Davis's commissariat. Her contributions of men were comparatively small, and her suffering during and after the war was relative only-she was too far from the theater of strife to feel the terrible blows that brought down the revolt. Politically, Florida has always-or until just now-been in the hands and pockets of a baker's dozen of such men as Yulee, Call, Walker, Westcott, and that sort-all hard-shell Slavery men, and of late years good Democrats of the Buchanan stripe. She was the third State in the rush for Secession, her Convention for that purpose having met on the 3d of January, 1861. At that time her population was less than 150,000, of whom about 65,000 were negroes. Her vote in 1860, for President, was 14,347, of which Breckinridge had a large majority. In October, 1865, a Reconstruction Convention was held under the authority of President Johnson's proclamation, a Constitution was formed, and in November of that year there was an election for State officers and Legislature-D. S. Walker was chosen Governor without opposition, though there was something of a contest on several subordinate offices. These officers are nearly all now in service. The vote on Governor was only about 5,900. But the Reconstruction acts of 1867 rendered a new Constitution necessary, and under their authority the necessary registration was made. It showed about 12,000 white and 16,000 colored voters. The highest vote ever cast in the State was in November, 1860, and that amounted to only 14.347. The election was held last November, when 14,300 votes were cast for, and 132 against a Convention. At the same time delegates were chosen, of whom 27 were whites and 18 colored. Soon after they met (in January) a question arose as to the right of certain delegates to their seats, and a long and disgraceful wrangle ensued, the result being the division of the Convention into two bodies, each bent upon getting up a constitution of its own. It does not appear that there was any material difference upon the main questions of reconstruction; the quarrel was entirely upon personal and subordinate matters.

At this juncture Gen. Meade appears upon the scene, and, by a calm and judicious exercise of his personal and official influence, has fortunately succeeded in harmonizing the contending factions, restoring the body to its normal condition, and infusing a spirit of work that we trust will be manifested in good results. It should be noted that the "nigger" question was not uppermost in the troubles to which we have alluded. The difficulty really grew out of the determination of certain white delegates to manage the Convention in the interest of prospective candidates for State and Federal offices. As we understand the latest accounts, Gen. Meade has prevailed upon them to lay aside their differences, wipe out what both Conventions have done, and commence

anew. Gen. Meade is entitled to the thanks of the country for his action in the matter. It was not called for as a duty, nor was it officiously intruded. He evidently feels anxious to hasten the too long delayed work of Reconstruction; he has, thus far, walked strictly by the line of duty according to the laws of Congress, and with soldierly frankness carried out the pithy axiom of his chief, "A law must be obeyed "until it is declared unconstitutional by the proper authority." There is now nothing in the way of the speedy rehabilitation of Florida. The Constitution ought to be perfected within a fortnightmuch of it is done already. We cannot suppose that the Alabama practice will work in the peninsula-there is none, or at the most very little, of the pro-Slavery terrorism that conspired to reduce the Alabama vote. Let our friends in Florida go ahead with renewed courage, and get into the Union ahead of Alabama-if possible.

The "Ring" of Brooklyn is "one point" ahead of its Tammany brethren in this city. In the municipal election last November, the zeturns showed the success of the Republican candidate for Alderman in the VIIth Ward, Mr. Thomas C. Steers, over Mr. Finehout, Democrat, by 42 majority. A Democratic canvasser refused to sign the returns from the 1st District of that Ward, but afterward certified to the correctness of the Ward returns throughout. When the Common Council met, a Committee of Investivasser was called before it. He testified that as possible on the permanent way; make

"didn't believe that the friends of Mr. Steers ported in favor of Mr. Steers, and a minority expressed the opinion that the election was not valid. As one of the Democratic members of the Council had "gone back" on the "Ring," it was found absolutely necessary to drum up a new recruit. So the report of the majority was brazenly voted down, the minority report was adopted, and a new election was ordered. The Republicans of the district, deeming Mr. Steers's election valid, refuse to nominate s new man, and we judge from present prospects that the "Ring" candidate will walk into the councils of his brethren without opposition.

## THE BRITISH POSTAL TREATY.

The new postal treaty between the United States and Great Britain, by which the rates of letter postage were reduced one-half, went into operation on the 1st of January. It is terminable by either party on twelve months' notice. The public, we believe, is not generally aware that before the treaty went into operation, and before there was any fair opportunity to judge how it would work, the British Postmaster-General gave notice of the intention of his Government to terminate the arrangement at the expiration of the required interval. We are not aware that any reason has been assigned for this unexpected action; but some light is thrown upon it by the recent publication by order of the House of Commons of the contracts for carrying the mails made by the British Government with the Cunard, Inman, and other Steamship Companies.

By the new treaty each party was to provide steam conveyance for its own mails. In accordance with this arrangement our Government advertised for proposals and accepted tenders from the Inman, North German Lloyd, and Hamburg lines, and at a later period from the Cunard line also. The British Government made contracts in a similar way with the Inman and North German Lloyd Companies, allowing them as remuneration the ocean postage of one shilling per ounce. The Cunard Company made no proposal in the form prescribed, but offered to carry the mails to and from the United States for the fixed sum of £95,000 a year, reduced afterward to £80,000. This contract system had been for years the great obstacle in the way of cheap ocean postage, and it was the expiration of the former bargain with the Cunard Company which gave opportunity for the reforms embodied n the recent treaty. To those, however, who know the devious ways of official transactions, and comprehend how easy it is for a rich company, which has long been

amassing wealth from Government business, to make friends in high quarters ,ever without resort to vulgar bribery, it will be no surprise that the demands of the Cunard line were complied with. As their offer, however, was to carry the mails both ways, the British Postmaster-General sent a special Commissioner to Washington to persuade our authorities to violate that clause of the treaty providing that each party shall furnish conveyance for its own mails, and to pay over to the British Government the postage received on all letters sent from here to England by the Canard steamers. This Mr. Randall refused to do. The Cunard Company was consequently obliged to make proposals to our Post-Office Department in the usual way, and to pay over to the English authorities all that it received from us for the mail service. Hereupon Great Britain gives

notice for the termination of the treaty. It may be that this extraordinary subserviency to the interests of a single steamship line will result after all in a new treaty, establishing still lower rates of postage. The correshows that the National line offered to carry letters at the rate of one penny per half ounce, and to run their steamers in fourteen days all the year round-which is the time now allowed the Inman line between September and April -and the offer was, most unwisely, declined. This proves that if we cannot have a threecent postage by the fastest steamers (which we do not admit), we can, at any rate, have it by steamers which would be fast enough for a large majority of correspondents. Cheap postage is a blessing more especially to the poor and the emigrant; to them a difference of forty-eight hours in time is nothing, but a difference of nine cents in money is a great deal. The proportion of business letters which require speed in transmission, we are credibly informed, is to other letters not more than as one to nine. If this vast preponderance of correspondents prefer to send their letters by slow and cheap lines, we see no reason why they should not do so; and when a new postal treaty comes to be considered, we trust the point will be looked after.

## BROKEN RAILS.

A little paragraph of three lines which appeared in the news columns of THE TRIB-UNE on Wednesday gave one of the most startling items of intelligence which we have published for many a week. It told how, in a single day, the patrol on a certain New-Jersey railroad discovered no fewer than eighty-six broken rails! That is to say, eighty-six chances of a horrible accident, of the crushing of limbs, the mangling and burning of human bodies. Suppose the patrol had overlooked one of those breaks; suppose an express train had torn at full speed over one of those fatal spots, with no warning of the awful danger; we should have had a repetition of the horrors of Angola, and a score of victims, may be, would have been sacrificed to the looseness of our railway system and the parsimony of our railway directors. We publish in another column a communication from a practical ironworker respecting the well-known liability of iron rails to break during cold weather. He disputes some of the received opinions as to the cause of the frangibility; but the great question is not why they break, but why they are used. It is notorious that during very cold or changeable weather no iron rail can be depended upon. However carefully made, there is always a likelihood, so strong as almost to amount to probability, of its breaking, and railway travelers have no dependence except upon the vigilance and intelligence of an ill-paid and a well-worked patrol. A steel rail is not liable to the same accident; it can be broken only with the greatest difficulty. Moreover, it will outlast a score of iron rails, and, in spite of its apparent costliness, it is really cheaper than iron. Some of our best roads have commenced adopting it; there is no reason why it should not come immediately into general use, except that the first outlay is high. But it is a barbarous economy which counts only the preliminary expense and neglects the cost of renewal. great defect of our railway system has gation was appointed, and the Democratic can- been a purblind parsimony. Spend as little

NEW-YORK DAILY TRIBUNE, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1868. "in his favor." After a thorough examination of too many of our engineers. But the time this investigation is going on. of the case, a majority of the Committee re- has come when we must reform all this. Better principles of management are beginning to prevail. Directors are learning that true economy is in thorough workmanship; and one of the lessons now being forced upon their minds is the lesson of steel rails. The ingenuity of American manufacturers has enabled us to obtain them at a greatly reduced price, and there is no valid reason against their universal introduction. It will soon become a question whether the use of an unsafe rail, when a safe one can be had, should not be prohibited with severe penalties.

TION IN FRANCE.

In every civilized country in the world, the question of the education of the children is coming to be looked upon as of the first importance. Whether trade shall be free or not, may await the laws of national growth; boundaries may be settled another time; all questions of arts or arms may be dallied with and deferred; but how the children are to be taught, whether by compulsion or by free-will, and what they are to be taught, whether useful or useless things, are questions that, it is now getting to be seen, cannot be put off with safety. Not only is every family concerned in the decision; the State itself is found to be prosperous or failing, rich or poor, leading or following, according as this question has been wisely looked to in the past, or has been neglected from the beginning until to-day. Italian uncertainty and imbecility, Spanish bigotry, French levity and narrowness, English materialism and conceit, all come out of the schools, and 'tis useless to hope that these faults will mend themselves, so long as the cause of the evil remains. The reason of the superiority of the German people, particularly of the Prussians, to the other peoples of Europe in morals, in intelligence, in thrift, in all the qualities that make men fit for society, is owing, more than to all other causes combined, to the admirable system of public instruction established there, and to the complete way in which that system is carried out. And it is possible that the growing interest in the subject of education, and the increasing concern manifested as to the deficiencies of existing methods, may be owing to the silent influence of the Prussian example. But, for whatever reason, it is certain that the interest and the concern are felt. Even Spain, degraded as that miserable country is, below the level even of Turkey, feels of late some suspicion that she is in a bad way, and a movement has been made there to establish better schools and to compel the attendance of children. Of course, no permanent improvement can be hoped for so long as Isabella and the priests continue to hold the nation by the throat; but it is something that there exists any party in the kingdom strong enough to start a movement toward a better state of things. In France, a more interesting, because a more hopeful, condition of affairs attracts our attention. M. Duruy, the able Minister of Public Instruction, has proposed plans, and even begun to carry some of them into operation, for the better education of French girls, more particularly those of the higher class. He is trying to get them out of the hands of the priests and nuns, who at present have almost the exclusive charge of their instruction-with what result, in one direction at least, has been clearly and eloquently pointed out by M. Michelet in his Femme." M. Duruy wishes to give girls a wider course of studies than the Church allows. He thinks it is necessary to enlarge their minds and to teach them to think, while the Church is anxious to keep them ignorant, and to preent them from thinking. The Romish Church long ago saw that its hold on the men of France was weakened, and it shrewdly concluded that the only way to regain its lost numbers was to get control of the race in its infancy. And this it has been trying for years to do by means of the mothers. Having the exclusive charge of the girl from her earliest youth, it has patiently and deliberately stultified her, has kept her ignorant, dwarfed her mental faculties by preventing their free use, encouraged her in frivolous ways of spending her time, allowing her to compromise for indulgence by a superstitious and slavish devotion to church duties, and has succeeded in making the present generation of French mothers almost as bigoted as Spaniards, and willing to surrender the education of their children, dyed in the very womb with Catholic prejudice, to the exclusive control of the

Many Frenchmen are alive to the danger of this state of things, and have spoken, written, and talked against it, for some time past; but nothing practical had been accomplished until M. Duruy, having at once the will and the power, determined to set a new fashion. He has accordingly established, at the Government expense, courses of lectures on & great variety of subjects; has engaged accomplished and learned men to take charge of them, and has opened them to the wives and daughters of France without charge. Of course, this proceeding has provoked a wide discussion, and has made a great commotion. The clergy are down upon it, to a man. They preach against it, pray against it, and write against it, with an intemperate zeal that shows they fear their citadel is in danger. Foremost among them is M. Dupanloup, the Bishop of Orleans, who pours out the vials of his wrath on M. Duruy and his schemes, which he declares are calculated to destroy the established reputation of French girls for docility and maidenly modesty. The good Bishop's objections seem ludicrous to English and American ears. With all his praises of the French virgins, he seems to charge them with an excessive frailty, for he avers that, if they attend these lectures, the policemen the student of the Latin Quarter will look at them, and we are left to infer that if a man looks at them they are undone. Our readers will, perhaps, hardly believe that this is the Bishop's principal objection, but he makes none more forcible. It is not likely that the discussion will end here. Since so important a personage as M. Duruy has started this reform, a large license will no doubt be allowed in defending it, and the believers in the necessity of improving the education of French women are too large a class, and include too many of the best intellects in the State, to leave us in any doubt that the discussion will result in great improvements in the present system, if, in fact, it does not sweep it away altogether.

member of the Assembly Committee on Cities (say Mr. Johnson or Mr. Murphy), in the course of the examination of the Fire Commissioners, to question them as to how many applications there are on file from members of the said Committee for positions either for themselves or for their friends in the Department; and,

We think it would be pertinent for some

to bear the outlay when the work has have been refused, and for what reason. The "in the VIIth Ward could cast so large a vote to be done over again; that has been the policy answer might bring out the real reason why

"There are but two parties in New-Hamp-"shire," writes our correspondent. There should be no State where more can exist. The pending canvass has no platform for neuters; Americans must side for or against Justice, Liberty, and Progress. New-Hampshire sets a good example.

A resolution has been introduced in Congress for the establishment of a Senate Library. No, gentlemen! No more unnecessary employés, if you please. We should be glad to know what need there is for a special library THE SCHOOL OF THE FUTURE-EDUCA- for the Senate, when the comprehensive and well-managed Library of Congress supplies all that is requisite both for the Senate and the House.

Those prominent Democratic speakers, Henry Clay Dean and C. Chauncey Burr, are doing excellent service for the Republican party in New-Hampshire. Wherever they appear, the place is flooded with printed accounts of their former history, and the Democratic papers are afraid or ashamed to publish their present speeches. We hope they will visit every town and hamlet in the State. Their presence, speech or no speech, insures large accessions to the Republican ranks.

In New-Jersey the Democratic majority in the Legislature have got to a third reading a bill to repeal the Registry law. There never yet was a law enacted or proposed for the purification of the franchise that did not meet the determined opposition of the Democratic party. The Registry law asks no more than that each elector shall prove his right to vote. Where such a law prevails, stuffing the ballotbox with fraudulent votes is impossible, and Democratic majorities are reduced or extinguished; hence the party's opposition to registry.

The National Intelligencer, speaking of the proposed removal of Gen. Sherman to Washngton, makes a remark which we hardly know whether to interpret as an unguarded confes sion, or a threat to Congress, or a spiteful attempt to insult Gen. Grant. Since the President, it says, has been [hedged about by the acts of his enemies, and Grant has given "aid "and comfort to the usurping Congress," Mr. Johnson desired "the appointment of a soldier to be of equal rank with Gen. Grant, in whose hands, under circumstances of great peril to the Republic, its safety would be better assured than it now is." One would think that Mr. Johnson meditated a coup d'état. But he was mistaken if he expected to find an instrument in Gen. Sherman.

Strong as is the love of liberty for ourselves implanted in every human breast, it seems to but little stronger or more universal than the desire to enslave others. The last American slave set free, so far as we have learned, is a girl, who was returned to her father, Henry E. Morris, a colored man, at Wilmington, Del., a few days She was seized by force in 1862, when only ten years old, and has been kept under pretended indentures of apprenticeship ever since. Her labor or other value would not have been available for many years, and the only motive on the part of her master seems to have been the itching to enslave somebody. The first joyful cry of the child when released was, "Now I shall get to school and "learn to read and write."

We infer from the telegraphed outline of the International Copyright bill framed by Mr. Baldwin, that it aims to give to authors residing in foreign countries the same copyright privileges on publishing their works here as those countries accord to American authors publishing like works there; that works copyrighted here in favor of foreign authors must be manufactured by American publishers; that these provisions do not interfere with the right to publish an original translation as an original work; and that foreign authors, in order to avail themselves of copyright in their works sold in America, must perfect their copyright here wishin three months after the original publication there.

# MUSIC.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC-IL BALLO IN MASCHERA. We had last night an excellent revival of the Ballo in Maschera," an Opera which, popular as it has always been, has not been heard in New-York for several years. It belongs to Verdi's better and more artistic style, and though it has neither the finish of "Rigoletto nor the showy melody of "Trovatore," it combines to a ertain degree some of the best characteristics of the two Verdian manners, of which those operas are the representatives. The Amelia of Madame La Grange deserve to rank with her Leonora and Violetta. It is distinguished by the dramatic intensity and vocal delicacy, in which she is preëminent, and it is not easy to imagine a more satisfactory personation. Signor Brignoli seemed t revel in the sweetness of the arias with which the com poser has so liberally endowed the tenor part, his La Rivedra in the first act, and the second part of the barcarole in the second being particularly del cate. His duet with Amelia, Non sai fu, in the same act, and the Ah qual soure in the third were admirab The latter was redemanded. Miss Phillips was the Ulrica, as she used to be of old. Sterling artist as she is, we need hardly say that her performance was entirely good, and the same praise may be given to Orlandini Miss McCulloch made a favorable impression as Oscar, es pecially in the opening aria. In the finale of the sec act she was somewhat over-taxed, but upon the whole her assumption of the role was a successful one. The opera was well mounted and the house was full.

THE NEW SEASON AT PIKE'S. Since the announcement last week that the Grover-Maretzek company would open Pike's Opera House on Monday, the 17th, for a season of Italian opera there has been commotion and civil war in the green-rooms, and the lobbies of the Academy of Music have heard no talk but of the tribulations of managers. The opening, as our readers know, did not take place;at the time announced. The cloud of troubles which encom passed the great combination troupe all through their prosperous provincial tour finally gathere and broke; and when the storm cleared away the combination had vanished. There was a prospect that some at least of the surviving artists would be added to Mr. Strakesch's company; but a new manager has now appeared, under whose guidance the discomitied Italians and Germans have a fair chance of singing themselves into wealth and glory. Mr. Lafayette Harrison, who has taken the venture in hand, brings to his operatic enterprise the good wishes of all musical people, and the prestige and experience of a successful career as a concert and oratorio impressario. He promises to respen the new opera-house on Monday next, with Madame Parepa-Rosa as his prima donna, and an excellent company, including the bright little Miss Hauck, Madame Testa, Pancani, Habelmanu, Antonneci, Bellini, Ronconi, and other popular favorites. In the course of the season Mrs. Jenny Kempton will make her first appearance in opera. Mr. Harrison ought to do well, and we carnestly hope that he will. Madame Rosa is pretty sure to draw overflowing houses for the four nights of her engagement, and there is certainly merit enough in the rest of the company to insure prosperity for the balance of the season. Our old favorite, Maretzek, is to be the musical director. There are rumors of mighty undertakings to grow out of this venture of Mr. Harrison's, and for the sake not only of the manager, who descrees so well of us, but of the public, who will be likely to profit from his good fortune, we wish him fair winds and a prosperous voyage.

MUSICAL NOTES. and broke; and when the storm cleared away

The rehearsals for the fourth Philharmonic Concert begin at the Academy of Music to-morrow afternoon.

"Judas Maccabeus" is to be sung to-night at Steinway Hall, being the fifth oratorio of Mr. Harri-son's brilliant series. The principal artists are Madame Rosa, Miss Brainerd, Mr. Simpson, and Mr. Thomas.

# WASHINGTON.

GEN. SHERMAN' TO THE PRESIDENT—REVELATION CONCERNING GEN. LEE—ALABAMA ELECTION
GEN. BANKS, NEW BILL—THE PRESIDENT
AND THE BALL MORE COMMITTEE—MARY.
LAND, COLORADO, ALIASKA—THE JEFFERSOR
DAVIS CAPTURE M. NEY—HANCOCK, WISEWELL, LOCKWOOD, HALL, SURRATT. TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.

WASHINGTON, Wednesday, Feb. 19, 1865.

The President to-day received a letter from Geg. Sherman on the subject of his assignment to the new command and his nomination to be Brevet General The letter is dated the 14th inst., and came through the headquarters of Gen. Grant. Although your correspondent is not enabled to send a copy of the letter or its substance, yet he can say that the tem. per and phraseology are about what was predicted in these dispatches-respectful and courteous. In the Senate to-day, Mr. Wilson introduced a bill

to admit Alabama, and gave notice that he should call it up to-morrow. He will then make a speech is which he will refer to the numerous outrages the were committed upon negroes for voting at the late election. He has received a great number of letter detailing instances in which men were turned out of employment for voting. Ex-Senator Fitzpatrick discharged all his hands, but was under the necessity of hiring them over again a few days afterward. Mr. Yates gave notice that he should call up the bill te admit Colorado to-morrow. The case of Senator elect Thomas came up at 1 o'clock. Senators Howard and Reverdy Johnson made strong speeches, the former against, and the latter in favor of admission. In the course of a spicy debate between Senators Johnsen and Cameron, the latter said that while he was Secretary of War, early in 1861, an arrangement was made between Gen. Scott and Gen. Lee, in which the latter agreed to take command of the Union armies during the Rebellion, but that he soon afterward went to Virginia, ostensibly on private business and did not return. In reply to a question, Mr. Cameron said that he did not know personally that Lee made this agreement, but he was quite positive of it, nevertheless, as he had at the time good reason to be informed on the subject. At 5 o'clock a vote was reached on Senator Reverdy Johnson's resolution to admit Mr. Thomas. It was defeated-Yeas 21, Nave 28. Senstor Drake then offered a resolution declaring Mr. Thomas disqualified, and informing the Governor of Maryland of a vacancy requiring a new election. This was adopted by 27 to 20. In the House, to-day, the Legislative and Execu

tive Appropriation bill was passed. Nearly the whole day was consumed in Committee of the Whole on the Army Appropriation bill. The recommendation of the Committee in this bill, that no more Second Lieutenants be appointed in the army except they be graduates of West Point, was the occasion of a spicy and noisy debate, in which Messrs. Logan, Pile, Blaine, Butler, and others participated. Mr. Logan got rampant, and declaimed, with emphasis, against favoring West Point officers to the injury of those who were merely volunteers during the war. Mr Blaine is managing the bill, and excellent progress was made to-day

The following is the full text of Mr. Banks's new bill relative to the rights of American citizens abroad to be offered at the earliest opportunity:

Whereas. The right of expatriation is a natural and inherent right of all people, indiapensable to the enjoyment of the rights of life, bleer, and the pursuit of happiness, for the protection of which the Government of the United States was established; and
Whereas, In the recognition of this principle this Government has freely received emigrant from all nations and invested them with the rights of citizenship; and
Whereas, I its claimed that all anoh American citizens, with their descendents, are subjects of foreign States, owing allegiance to the Government.

herefore

Be if enocied, dr., That any declaration, instruction, opinion, order, a
facinion of any officers of this Government, which denice, restrict, in
pairs, or questions the right of expaination is hereby declared incost
sistems with the fundamental principles of the Government, and therefore

person and property that is accorded to native acre contents in the tions and circumstances.

SEC 3. That whenever it shall be duly made known to the President that any citizen of the United States has been arrested and is detained by any foreign Government in contravention of the intent and purposes of this act, upon the allegation that naturalization in the United States does not operate to dissolve his allegance to his native surverign; or if any citizen shall have been arrested and detained whose release now demand thall have been unpranounably delayed or refused. The President shall be and hereby is empowered to order the arrest, and detain subtody, any subject or citizen of such foreign Government who may be found within the jurisdiction of the United States; and the President shall without delay give information to Congress of any such preceding that the contract that are the contract that the contract that are the contract that the contract that the contract that are the contract that are the contract that are the contract that the contract tha

The Finance Committee are still taking evidence in Wisewell's case, but no new developments have Rollins's children, and the serious illness of another will probably be the means of prolonging any defi-

nite action for some weeks to come, as Mr. Rollins cannot spare the time necessary for the preparation of documents bearing on the subject. The House Committee on Claims have had under consideration 150 cases of petitions, but have not reported on any important matter. In a few days, the Committee will report the awards for the capture of Jefferson Davis, recommending a division of the \$100,000 reward into portions to each person entitled to pay, a sum about equal to the bounty paid to soldiers in the late war. The Committee are about ready to report on the claim of Bealls and Dickinson,

for a contract for granite work on the south end of the Treasury building. The Committee on Accounts have finished their investigation of the charges against Col. Ordway. Sergeant-at-Arms of the House. They will report to the House, fully exonerating Col. Ordway. This report is agreed on unanimously by the committee

without regard to politics. It is understood that a majority of the House Committee on Elections have about resolved to report in favor of Mr. Morgan's right to a seat in the House from the XVIIIth Ohio District. The seat was contested by Columbus Delano, Republican, on the ground that many votes were cast for Morgan by deserters from the army, who, under the laws of Ohia were disfranchised.

Attorney-Gen. Stanbery sent to the House today a communication disclosing the names of those who signed the petition to the President for a pardon to the notorious forger, Solomon Kohnstam. Amons them are the names of Attorney-Gen. Stanbery, Judge Edwards Pierrepont, ex-Se uator Harris, Senators Morgan, Conkling, Reverdy Jo. inson, How ard and Nye; Representatives Marvin, Hulburg, Chanler, Van Aernam, Taber, Burt, Van Ho, n. Gris wold, Humphrey, Hubbell, Raymond, Davis, House, Morris, Darling. Dodge, Bergen, Winfield, Hotchk Hubbard, Radford, and Goodyear of New-York; See retary McCulloch, Messrs. James T. Brady, E. S. Vat Winkle, Aug. Schell, A. W. Hoffman, Wm. M. Evarta Gov. Fenton, Simeon Draper, Mrs. Senator Douglas Mrs. Moses Odell, Daniel Drew, and H. B. Claffin.

Information has been received here that Gen Meade will probably appoint a Board to investigate the facts in the alleged outrages and intimidation practiced by the late Rebel party in driving and keeping the colored people from the polls in the recent Alabama election, and if the facts warrant it, he will direct that the polls be reopened in certain districts. Gen. Hardee of the Freedmen's Bureau in that State has been ordered to make provision for the distress, if any, prevailing lowing to the persecution of the negroes in the election, and to refuse all assistance to planters and others who have perpetrated these outrages.

Some time ago Gen. Hancock determined to remove the Street Commissioner of New-Orleans, wha had the fault of having been one of Gen. Sheridan't appointés. Being full of the notion of recognizing the civil authorities, he did not remove the Commissioner, but preferred charges against him to the Mayor. This latter officer referred the matter to the City Councils for investigation. They began to try the case, but after they had heard the prosecution, and were about hearing the defense, Gen. Hancock interfered, and removed the Commissioner, thus stopping any further trial. An appeal has been made against Gen. Hancock to Gen. Grant. The Street Commissioner's attorney had an interview with Gen. Grant's Chief of Staff to-day, and presented the facts to him.

Still further arrivals are reported to-night of prominent Democrats who come here to take part in the selection of a place for holding the National Convention. The West is very numerously represented and it is probable that that region may be as strong as the North and East combined. The outside pressure upon the members of the national Committee.